



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Yoshio Onuki et al. **Examiner:** Michael G. Mendoza
Serial No: 10/616,517 **Art Unit:** 3731
Filed: July 10, 2003 **Docket:** 15679
For: ENDOSCOPIC SUTURE
APPARATUS **Dated:** April 18, 2005
Conf. No.: 1188

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated October 26, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in light of the following amendments and remarks:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 18, 2005.

Dated: April 18, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Spinelli".

Thomas Spinelli